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International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union
(ILGWU)

12-21-1923

Justice (Vol. 5, Iss. 52)

International Ladies Garment Workers Union (ILGWU)

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International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, ILGWU, labor unions, clothing workers, textile workers, garment workers, garment industry, New York, United States

Comments

Justice was the official publication of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union ILGWU from 1919 to 1995. Editions of *Justice* were published in English, Italian, Spanish, and Yiddish. When compared side by side, the content of some of these different editions of *Justice* shows significant differences. This is the English-language edition of *Justice*.

"My righteousness I hold fast, and will not let it go."

—Job 27.6

JUSTICE

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARNET UNION

"Workers of the world unite! You have nothing to lose but your chains."

Vol. V, No. 52.

New York, Friday, December 21, 1924

Price 2 Cents

NEW YORK JOINT BOARD A FULL PROGRAM OF G. E. B. DEMANDS

All Ten Points Adopted Without Change

At the last meeting of the Cloak and Dress Joint Board of New York on Friday, December 14th, the program for industrial reforms prepared by the General Executive Board of the International at its sixth quarterly meeting in Chicago several weeks ago was finally adopted after a thorough discussion which occupied several meetings.

This program will serve as a basis for the new demands which will be put forth to the employers when negotiations begin next Spring for a new collective agreement in the industry all over the country. It can hardly be doubted that when carried out, this program will considerably improve the condition of our workers.

Among these ten points, the outstanding ones are the introduction of a 40-hour week in the cloak trade; the limitation of the number of contractors that jobbers may send work to during any given season; a reasonable raise over the present wage scales in the cloak industry, this wage scale to be the only one that the union would undertake to protect; the

establishment of a guaranteed period of employment to be secured by a trust fund to be made up of weekly contributions by the employers based

on the size of their payroll; a mutual unemployment insurance fund; a labor bureau, and a few other improvements.

Contempt of Court Case in Camden Strike

The cloak strike in Camden, N. J. in the cloak shop of J. Leff & Co., continues with the same energy as heretofore.

It would seem that the Leff firm is considerably peeved over the determination of the workers to carry their fight to a finish. The firm is leaving no means unused to break the strike, among these police and court persecutions against the strikers and the strike leaders. Its latest stunt has been the bolstering up of a contempt of court case against the strikers.

Last Monday a hearing on this case took place before Judge Ingersoll in

Atlantic City and about 40 Camden residents came to Atlantic City to testify for the strikers against the firm. They told the judge how the firm was persistently endeavoring to "frame" the strikers in order to injure their case. Judge Ingersoll listened attentively to both sides, and he is expected to hand down a decision shortly. Meanwhile some of the strikers are being held for grand jury.

The Camden strike is under the supervision of the Eastern office of the International Organization Department, of which Vice-president Halperin is manager.

International Union Bank Completes Staff

Only a few days remain now to the opening of the International Union Bank, the financial organization sponsored by our Union and its affiliated local bodies in Greater New York, in cooperation with a number of other labor organizations.

Everything is being rushed to completion for January 8th, 1924, the opening date. The great marble front and the bronze fixtures of the bank have already been installed and, as the men employed on the job are working on a double-shift basis, there is little doubt that the bank will be ready for business at the fixed hour.

Meanwhile, the general manager and vice-president of the bank, Mr. Philip Rodriguez, together with Secretary Baroff, the president of the bank, and Philip Kaplowitz, its cashier, are finishing up the several other preliminary steps required for the functioning of this financial institution. The foreign exchange department, the savings department and the regular commercial branches are being put into final shape and a full staff of workers has already been engaged for the institution.

UNITY CENTERS WILL RE-OPEN JANUARY 7

The Unity Centers, which had their final sessions this Wednesday, will close for the Christmas holiday period as usual.

The Workers' University will keep open next week and students will be required to attend the sessions without interruption.

The Unity Centers will reopen on Monday, January 7.

Cutters' Union to Instal Officers Tomorrow

Meeting to Be Held on Saturday, December 22, in Arlington Hall

Last Saturday, December 15th, the Cutters' Union of New York, Local 10, had election for officers. The balloting was marked by an unusually large vote, which is significant of the growing interest of the New York cutters in their union.

Times there were when in Local 10 there were factions, "welfare leagues" and other such "union-within-union" groups. Fortunately today Local 10 is a united labor body which devotes its efforts wholly to the interests of the union and of its members in the shops. Elections last Saturday proved clearly that factional

fighting and disagreement are a matter of the past in this organization.

The voting turned out to be in the best sense of the word a vote of confidence for the administration of the local, which was re-elected practically without exception. Among the returned officers of Local 10 are Brother Philip Ancel, president; Brother David Dubinsky, manager; Brother Joseph Fish, secretary; Brother Sam B. Shenker, assistant manager. A full executive board and all other officers of the local were elected.

Tomorrow, Saturday, the Cutters' Union will have a mass meeting at

Arlington Hall, St. Mark's Place, to instal the elected officers. The installation exercises will be conducted by President Morris Sigman. The meeting will also be addressed by Abraham Baroff, secretary-treasurer of our International; Israel Feinberg, manager of the Joint Board; S. Yanofsky, editor of "Gerechtigkeit"; David Dubinsky, manager of Local 10, and others. Right after the installation the meeting will proceed to regular business, the first on the list being the vote on the next convention city of the International.

G. E. B. to Meet in Philadelphia on January 9

The seventh quarterly meeting of the General Executive Board, Secretary Baroff announces, will begin its session in Philadelphia on Wednesday, January 9. The place of the meeting will be announced in due course. By the time the meeting convenes, the results of the referendum on the convention city will be known and the G. E. B. will at that meeting appoint a committee on convention arrangements, who will supervise the large amount of detail connected with the running of such a big enterprise as an International convention.

This meeting will concern itself primarily with the duty of whipping into final shape the great industrial program prepared by the G. E. B. at its meeting in Chicago which has now been fully endorsed by the local bodies of the International.

It is a big task and at this meeting the International will mobilize all its forces for the carrying into effect during the coming spring of this program.

CLOAK AND DRESSMAKERS NOT TO WORK CHRISTMAS DAY

Next Tuesday, December 25, is Christmas, a legal holiday, and no cloak and dressmakers are to work on that day. Week-workers are to receive pay for the day in full.

Committees of the union will patrol the shop district from early morning, and members of our union found at work will be called before the grievance committees and severely punished.

By order of the Joint Board,

LOUIS E. LANGER,
Secretary

Reefer Makers Will Vote for Officers This Saturday

This coming Saturday, December 22, the Reefer Makers' Union, Local 17, will vote for officers for the year 1924. It is a local singularly blessed with the absence of faction fighting, where elections as a rule are conducted in a peaceful, quiet and highly satisfactory manner.

The Reefer Makers will vote for their officers all day Saturday beginning 9 o'clock in the morning until 5 o'clock in the afternoon. The balloting will take place at the office of the Union, 144 Second Avenue. It is expected that the members of Local 17 will turn out in large numbers for the voting as usual.

LABEL COMMITTEE AT WORK

The Label Committee of the International, appointed at the Chicago meeting of the General Executive Board, met last week twice to consider plans for an extensive label campaign on women's wear made in union shops.

The committee, under the chairmanship of Vice-president Perlstein, will have a report and a complete publicity program ready for the coming meeting of the Board.

Topics of the Week

By MAX D. DANISH

BIG BUSINESS TO RUN GERMANY

OUT of the welter of agonizing moves and counter-moves that is convulsing Germany, one thing is becoming clearer from day to day, and that is, that the handful of great industrial magnates that own practically all that is worthwhile owning in that country are flatfootedly determined to run Germany to suit themselves, all feeble opposition to the contrary notwithstanding.

The German state has been made bankrupt by the wiping out of money values by the financial sharks and, if a semblance of a national government is to be preserved in Germany, the Reich will have to raise money from these selfsame financial magnates on the remains of its national wealth—the state-owned railroads, telegraphs, mines and forests. In spite of its fervid appeals for aid to feed the millions of underfed children and unemployed workmen this winter, the chances for raising a big foreign loan abroad—against the opposition of the French—are quite slim. Germany is therefore ready for a complete surrender, industrially and politically, ready to pawn the remainder of its sovereignty to the all-powerful group of German industrialists for the opportunity to continue its existence. And when one considers that these German industrialists, behind the scenes, are negotiating and doing business with the French industrialists who are eager to participate in German operation of Government and private enterprises—who can say that this mighty ring of international world-foggers is not finally reaching its goal, having accomplished by relentless economic strangulation of the German masses what seemingly appeared only a short while ago impossible to achieve by political "direct action"?

And this pessimism seems entirely merited notwithstanding the announcement from Washington that unofficially America has consented to take part in an inquiry to consider means of balancing Germany's budget and stabilize her currency. Something may and may not come out of this inquiry, but one thing appears obvious: the only great force that can be relied upon in Germany to safeguard it from the encroachments of the international marauders, its erstwhile great labor movement stands weary and emaciated with its back to the wall, offering but little resistance to the enemy and inspiring little hope for the immediate future.

FIVE YEARS LATE

AT LAST the national disgrace of political prisoners held five years after the end of the war was wiped out at one stroke last week, when President Coolidge granted them clemency without conditions. This brings an end to the untiring work of the Joint Amnesty Committee, an organization composed of the best liberal and radical elements of thought and action in this country.

Those who steadily fought for the checking of the wave of intolerance and blind hate, which swept the country during the war years and reached its height in 1920, may, nevertheless, bear in mind that this unconditional amnesty granted to the Federal political prisoners still leaves a great many victims of freedom of speech and assembly and defenders of the right of labor to organize, in state jails from coast to coast, languishing there under sentences ranging from 3 to 20 years, and railroaded under a variety of so-called anti-syndicalist laws, an ugly survival of the war period. The men and women who helped to free the political prisoners from the Federal jails should now band their efforts together to wipe these sinister laws from the statute books of California, Indiana, Ohio, Nebraska and the many other States which have curbed the liberties of their citizens.

There is another great task to be considered. It is obvious that, should there be another war, and there is no telling but that one is in the brewing right now, the whole tragedy will doubtless be enacted over again. The only way to preserve the civil liberties of the Nation from periodic wrecks is to fight concertedly and relentlessly against war. To this end every one to whom the rights of free men and our elementary civil liberties are dear must strive with every means at their command.

THE PROGRAM OF ENGLISH LABOR

UNLESS things take an unexpected turn, the British Labor Party will, as soon as the new Parliament meets, oust the Tory Cabinet and be called upon to form the first Labor Government in the history of England.

What will Labor's policies be? Admittedly this is not the most auspicious time for Labor to become a ruling party for the first time. It obviously cannot rule by its own strength and it will have to steer a tortuous course in order to avoid being wrecked from the outset. At the same time, if it is to make a strong and fascinating appeal to the country, it cannot content itself with half-measures and mid-course gestures.

From the summaries appearing in the daily press of the outstanding points of foreign and domestic policy, upon which agreement has been reached by the leaders of the Labor Party, it looks as if Labor will not be engaged in pussyfooting while it holds the reins of government in England. Among these tentative policies are: the summoning, either by Great Britain or the United States, of a disarmament conference for world disarmament; signature of Great Britain to a protocol embodying compulsory arbitration; a world conference to settle reparations and war debts; full recognition of Soviet Russia; relief credit for Germany to enable her to purchase raw materials and other necessities in England; the abolition of the ambassadors' conference and the substitution in diplomatic posts at Washington, Paris, Berlin and other important centers of prominent radical or labor statesmen in place of present incumbents.

This preliminary outline gives a fair forecast of the almost drastic, revolutionary change which Labor proposes to initiate in the foreign policy of Great Britain. That these details will meet with violent opposition both from the Tory and Liberal parties, there is no doubt. The Labor Party is surely fully aware of this and it is quite likely ready to face and meet defeat on this first great constructive appeal issued by the workers' party of England to every other constructive section of public opinion in the world:

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Union Health Center News

The Board of Directors of the Union Health Center met on Thursday, December 13th and decided to make the necessary preparations for the masque ball to be held on March 29, at the 71st Regiment Armory. It was also decided to engage some masque entertainment features to make the affair a success.

Brothers Wander, Brealow and Schoenholtz were appointed the committee on the Journal. Brothers Levy, Fish and Weiner were appointed as ball committee.

The Union Health Center Students' Council met on Tuesday, December 11th and elected a new executive committee. They also decided to hold

a social on the 28th of December at the Union Health Center.

Dr. Eugene L. Fisk, director of the Life Extension Institute, spoke on Friday, December 14th, at the Union Health Center before a crowded audience. He gave an interesting account of the present possibilities of extending life to one hundred years or more. He emphasized the fact that the prolongation of living depends upon the people themselves. The lecture was illustrated by very interesting lantern slides.

On Friday, December 21st, Professor S. Adolphus Knopf will speak on "Tuberculosis—the Proletarian Disease." The lecture will be illustrated by motion pictures.

THE PROVINCETOWN PLAYERS

The first production to be made at the Provincetown Playhouse under the direction of Kenneth Macgowan, Eugene O'Neill, and Robert Edmund Jones will be August Strindberg's

"The Spook Sonata," early in January. O'Neill's new drama in seven scenes, "All God's Chillen Got Wings," will follow in February.

If on this platform Labor is defeated, and a new election for Parliament is held in the near future, Labor surely stands only to gain and to be returned, perhaps, as a majority party.

WOMEN WORKERS SEE COOLIDGE

LAST week President Coolidge received a group of women workers who appeared before him to protest against the "equal rights" amendment to the Constitution sponsored by the National Women's Party.

On the face of it, such a protest coming from a delegation representing organized labor may seem somewhat incongruous if not contradictory. Organized labor has fought for decades for the enfranchisement of women, and the American Federation of Labor was one of the original organizations in America to agitate for the political equality of men and women. And organized women workers in particular have made the granting of the vote to women one of their principal aims and goals in pre-suffrage days.

Nevertheless, women workers and the organized labor movement which supports them have very valid grounds for fighting against this "equal rights" amendment and its menacing consequences. It must be kept in mind that the enactment of such a blanket amendment would obliterate almost automatically every law limiting the hours of labor for women in factories, mines, stores and other industrial pursuits, would abolish the minimum wage laws for women existing in several States, laws protecting working mothers, and similar State enactments designed for the welfare of women workers. These laws have been put through in these States through the untiring efforts of the workers stretching over a period of some forty or fifty years.

It goes without saying, for example, that a constitutional amendment which would deprive women of their eight-hour day would not be a measure giving equal rights; but on the contrary would add to the already heavy handicap of the unorganized working women.

FROM OUR JOINT BOARDS AND LOCALS

Boston News

By OBSERVER

Friday evening, December 14th, marked an historical epoch in the life of the members of the International in Boston. It was the celebration of the beginning of educational activities for this season within our locals. Invitations were sent to all our members and they responded in numbers exceeding by far the most optimistic expectations of the arrangements committee. Ford Hall, where the celebration took place, never held a bigger and more enthusiastic crowd. The main hall as well as the balcony were crowded to the very walls and even standing room was at a premium.

The chairman of the Educational Committee, Brother Spiegel, opened the festivities by introducing the chairman for the evening, Vice-president Monosson, who made a few appropriate remarks and in turn introduced the different artists and speakers of the evening. Professor Morris and his quartet of singers, as well as A. Chakausky, violinist, made a hit with the audience, for they were called out again and again after each number and were compelled to give many additional encores.

Among the speakers were Professor Clarence R. Skinner of Tufts College, one of the lecturers for the locals in Boston; Antonietti Konkow, and our own Miss Fannie M. Cohn, who came from New York for the occasion. All the speakers pointed out the importance of knowledge and of education for the workers, particularly now when the governments in several countries are in the hands of the working class, and when in Great Britain the Labor Party is about to be called upon to assume the reigns of government.

The workers must prepare for the future, and we never can tell how soon this may be, when even in these conservative United States they may have to assume this great responsibility. The great trade unions of this country, among whom is our International, are doing this work of preparing the workers for this responsibility through education.

One could readily see that all these speeches found their mark in the hearts of the listeners. It is certain

that the evening will be productive of good results and that many more of our members will become interested in the courses and lectures given through the Educational Department of our International.

The Executive Board of Waist and Dressmakers' Union, Local 49, is at present discussing the probable changes in the agreement, which is to be renewed not later than February 15, 1924. The demands of the Union will be made public after New Year's. President Sigman is expected to come to Boston on January 2, and will spend three days here. During President Sigman's stay here, conferences will be held between the manufacturers, contractors and jobbers in the dress industry.

While Local 49 does not expect much trouble in renewing the agreement, still it is well prepared to fight any manufacturer or group of manufacturers should the latter refuse to renew it.

The dress jobbers are practically the only ones in Boston who are not organized. During the past few days these jobbers were interviewed by representatives of the Union and the Contractors' Association, and it seems that an organization of dress jobbers will soon be formed. The jobbers who fail to sign up with the Union either collectively or individually will have to contend with the combined forces of the Union and the Contractors' Association. Both are determined to see to it that the jobber, who is the real employer, shall assume his share of responsibility for the welfare of the workers in the industry.

Our heartiest congratulations to the finishers of Local 56 on the occasion of their receiving a charter from the International as a separate local. Vice-president Monosson, who was in New York during the week, brought the charter with him and presented it to the seven members to whom it was granted.

Local 39, the new finishers' local, will at once elect five delegates to the newly established Joint Board which will begin to function the first week in January.

The Sample Makers

By DAVID RUBIN

A number of weeks ago I wrote in these columns on the condition of the sample makers and the antagonism which exists between the operators and the sample makers during sample-making time. At that time I drew the attention of the officers of Local 1 to this clash of interests and suggested that we reach an understanding upon it.

Since then we have had a number of shop-chairmen meetings in our local and at all these gatherings the same results were recorded—increasing competition between the sample makers and the operators in production as well as in price. It is the sample season now, and yet a great many sample makers are without work despite the fact that their number in general is not too large. And the reason is not too far to seek—the operators have been quite busy making up these samples.

When one talks to the officers of

Local 1 they would have you believe that, were samples to be made by members of our local exclusively, there would not have been enough hands to make up all the required samples. Of course, such an assertion can be made either in ignorance of existing facts or because they would forget that the majority of operators who are now making samples are either former tailors who have been driven to become machine operators, members of Local 1, on account of the conditions described above, or former members of Local 9, who should have been transferred to Local 3 but have instead gone to Local 1.

This encroachment of the operators upon the jobs of the sample makers creates an unwholesome condition in the shops, a system of catch-as-catch-can from which the employer eventually is the only one to profit. Again we call the attention of Local 1 to this anomalous condition and ask them to give earnest thought to it.

Chicago Items

By A. L.

ELECTIONS

Our Chicago locals are busy now with elections—for Joint Board, executive board, business agents and sundry other posts. The meetings are crowded and the interest in the contests is rather high. The offices are not going around begging for candidates, but there are many contestants for each post.

The Chicago locals gave a warm reception to the communication from the International Union Bank of New York. Local 5 will buy shares for \$5,000 and there is no doubt that the other locals will follow suit.

TRADE CONDITIONS

The Chicago cloakmakers have just passed through the worst season they have had in years. Barely has a worker been employed for more than a few weeks and the conditions all-round are, in view of this fact, rather depressing.

But the fall season is already a matter of the past, hopes are now being held out for a good spring season. All signs point in that direction and as spring seasons have now generally become the main work periods in our industry, it can be reasonably expected that better times are coming.

Towards the end of the season several employers gave up business and added to the number of unemployed. Many New York jobbers are opening up offices in Chicago and buying up cloaks. As in New York, the jobbing epidemic is reaching here, and is further multiplying our difficulties.

THE UNION-OWNED FACTORY

The organizing of a cooperative union factory is one of the main topics of discussion on every order of business. The project has received all-round discussion, at mass meetings and local meetings. Like every new undertaking, the plan for a union-owned factory has a good many opponents, especially in view of the fact that it would mean an invest-

ment of \$25 on the part of every member. The lefts have also done their bit to disrupt this plan. A week ago Saturday, we called together a meeting of opponents to this project. It was a well-attended meeting and it proved that those who were opposed to the union-owned factory had no valid arguments to offer. At the end of the meeting, the majority of those opponents became converted to the plan.

At the meeting of Local 5 last week, Vice-president Perlestein was warmly applauded when he presented the plan in all its details. It will be offered to a referendum of all the members in a few weeks and it looks as if an overwhelming majority of the Chicago cloakmakers will vote for its adoption. Then we shall begin to collect the fund and to start the practical work.

Our members are beginning to realize that, in order to fight the sweatshop which has found such deep lodging in our industry, the union must become a factor not only in the shops where garments are made but also in the markets where the garments are sold. The plan in general has caused a stir in trade circles. Employers and buyers are inquiring whether the union actually intends to carry out this plan and they are speculating on the effects of this step on the industry. The general opinion is that it is a feasible and very practicable undertaking.

FAREWELL, BROTHER RUDIN

Local 18, the Pressers' Union of Chicago, said farewell this week to one of its most active members, Brother Rudin, who left for New York. Brother Rudin has been a familiar figure in our local union for years and Local 35, to which he is now being transferred, will receive in him a loyal and devoted soldier in the army of our International Union, —a trade unionist without fear or reproach.

The Philosophy of Anatole France,
A Lecture By Dr. N. B. Fagin

The Philosophy of Anatole France will be the subject of a lecture to be given by Dr. N. B. Fagin on Saturday, December 29, at 7:30 P. M., at the I. L. G. W. U. Building, 3 West 16th Street.

Dr. Fagin will discuss Anatole France's satire and irony, his position as a writer of fiction with slight plots upon which to hang his reflections upon life and man, and as one of the greatest stylists, colorful and brilliant, soft, lucid, mellow.

As the Washington Irving High School will be closed on that date, Saturday, December 29, the lecture

will be given at our own building, at the same hour.

Admission free to the members of the I. L. G. W. U.

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JUSTICE

A Labor Weekly

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MORRIS SIGMAN, President.

S' YANOFKY, Editor.

A. BAROFF, Secretary-Treasurer

H. A. SCHOOLMAN, Business Manager

MAX D. DANISH, Managing Editor

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Forest Park Unity House—Season 1923

Annual Report by Unity House Committee

In submitting this report, the Unity House Committee wishes to present a clear and comprehensive outline of its activities relative to the operation of the Unity House the last summer season.

The year before, as you remember, the Unity House Committee, in submitting its final report at the close of the summer season, made a number of suggestions for the further improvement of the Unity House. These recommendations included the following:

1. The digging of an artesian well.
2. Improvement of the lighting facilities.
3. Erection of a number of family bungalows.
4. Building of a winter cottage.

These recommendations had been carefully considered and approved by the four locals interested in the Unity House, and were left to the Administrative Committee to work out detailed constructive plans and then submit their findings to the locals for final approval. Unfortunately, owing to the preparations for the general strike which was called in the waist and dress industry during February last, the work in the Unity House had to be postponed. The strike was settled in the early spring, but it was already too late, the committee then learned, to begin the making of the necessary repairs and improvements, as their completion would not be possible in time for the opening of the summer season. All that was possible to do was the fixing up somehow of the defective machinery in the water and power plants to tide over the summer season and to proceed with the accepted construction program after the closing of the house.

To carry out this tentative plan, however, proved to be very difficult, as, upon consultation with qualified experts it was learned that temporary repairs were not sufficient to insure the safety of the operation of the plants during the entire season; but since the committee had no other alternative, it was decided to proceed with such repairs and run the risk.

In order to continue with the work on the premises it was necessary to have someone make all arrangements and to supervise the work so that it be done properly and speedily. The committee, as a whole, was unable to do so and as yet, we had no manager or any responsible person who could be charged with the duty of attending to the matter. The committee therefore, requested its chairman, Brother Rottenberg, to go to Forest Park and make the necessary arrangements concerning the repair work. Brother Rottenberg complied with the committee's request and proceeded at once to Forest Park and from then on the work was commenced.

Thereafter, Brother Rottenberg visited the Unity House every week to supervise the carrying on of the work.

Besides the carrying on of the work on the premises proper, a number of other matters required immediate attention, namely, the arrangements with the various dealers to supply the house with the necessary provisions, the purchase of equipment parts of machinery, etc. The committee then decided to engage a manager for the season whose duty it was to control and supervise all these matters.

The committee then realized that as the season was rapidly approaching it was necessary to organize a publicity campaign in order that the proper attendance be secured for the season. It was decided that some competent person be secured to attend to the secretarial and publicity work and the supervision of the registration bureau,

as well. After careful consideration the committee unanimously decided upon Brother Rosenberg as manager and Brother Jacobson as secretary. After the selection of these two officers, the work was at once started in full swing. Both the manager and secretary began their work officially at the end of April, the former attending to matters at Forest Park, while the latter was in attendance at the New York end. In this way matters went along smoothly.

In arranging our publicity work we bent all our energies to attract the attention of our own members and of other unions. This we did with the hope of eliminating as far as possible outsiders. Primarily, our aim was to make the workers realize that the Unity House is in actuality, their institution, dedicated and maintained to their own exclusive comfort and wellbeing. To this end we had printed suitable, attractive literature describing in a clear and interesting way the aims, purposes and manifold advantages offered by the Unity House. This material was distributed widely in great quantities at shop meetings, union offices, etc. Circular letters were also addressed to all shop chairmen of the dress and waist industry, and also of the cloak and skirt industry. Elaborate show cards were printed and displayed in all union offices and shops, and in public places where workers are accustomed to congregate. And in addition to this general publicity work we were successful in securing the very generous aid of the labor press. Editors, special articles, news items, humor and narrative touching upon the Unity House were donated liberally by the Labor Press and to its whole-hearted cooperation must be laid no small part of the credit due for making the Unity House the success it was the past season.

The total number of guests at the Unity House during the season was 2,758 and the increase in attendance, week after week, was continuous from the very beginning of the season to the end. The house opened with 350 visitors, a record number of attendance for our opening.

MANAGEMENT

As stated before, Brother Rottenberg assumed official duties as manager at about the end of April. At the beginning he devoted only part of his time to the Unity House, being at that time in the employ of our Joint Board, but as the work progressed his constant attendance became imperative. On May 22d he left for the Unity House and remained there till the end of the season.

Brother Rottenberg's task as manager was far from an easy one. Having encountered some difficulties in meeting the terms of the woman which the committee had engaged as stewardess and dietitian. Brother Rottenberg decided that he would try to get along without her services for the season. In the end he was left with the triple task, namely the work of purchasing, the supervision of the kitchen and the dining room, and also the general management of the house, which included, of course, the work of dealing with the eighty employees. The committee feels satisfied that under such circumstances the management was fully as good as could be expected from any human being.

VISITING COMMITTEES

The Unity House Committee, realizing the position of our manager, who, single handed, had the work of controlling all administrative affairs, decided to send visiting committees to the Unity House on week-ends to observe how the house was being con-

ducted and to assist the manager in an advisory capacity. This was a great relief to the manager, inasmuch as it gave him the opportunity to be in direct touch with the members of the committee and provided the advantage of being able to consult their opinions on matters of importance.

To the members of the committee these regular visits to the Unity House offered a splendid opportunity of becoming acquainted with everything that transpired at the house and to observe at first hand the success as well as the mistakes and shortcomings.

RECREATION AND AMUSEMENTS

In our recreations and amusements we have this season surpassed anything attempted in previous years. We opened the house on the 15th of June with a concert in which artists of exceptional ability participated. It was the most successful ever held at Unity and was truly a source of inspiration to all those present. A second professional concert was held on Labor Day and was considered nearly as good as the first.

During the season we carried through a large variety of amusements and entertainments. These affairs were arranged and conducted by our recreation boucher who was successful in procuring talent from the ranks of our own Unity patrons, by personally training amateurs from among our workers. On the whole, we had more successful entertainments this year than ever before.

Besides entertainments, we instituted daily courses in physical training, dancing and swimming instruction, hiking parties, camp fires and innumerable other diversions. We also arranged a series of lectures under the supervision of a special committee appointed by Brother Rottenberg and selected from a group of the administrative staff. This committee arranged successfully, seventeen lectures. The following lecturers of note participated: Prof. Scott Nearing, Dr. Bourstein, Dr. Will Durant, Robert Minor, Mr. Zybert, J. Gannon, Harry Kelly, Prof. Harry Dana, Max Levine, Fred. Merrick, Prof. Fagin and S. Yanzovsk. The lectures were of an extremely interesting and instructive character and met with general appreciation on the part of our guests.

In conclusion, we desire to express our deepest appreciation to all the Unity House employees for their most valuable and devoted services which they rendered. The sincerity and zeal with which they devoted themselves to their respective tasks are noteworthy and deserve all praise. It may properly be stated that a great deal of the success we have had is due to their cooperation and faithfulness to duty.

FUTURE NEEDS AND REQUIREMENTS

The work of the past season completed, we must turn our attention and thought to the future needs of the Unity House.

As stated at the outset we found the house before the opening of the last season in very bad shape, and regardless of all the temporary repairs which we had to make, the house cannot be considered in better shape today than then, perhaps even worse.

Surely, its operation next season will become almost impossible unless the necessary repairs are properly and speedily attended to.

Extensive repairs are necessary and it will require a great deal of time to install these changes. In order to fit the premises for the next season and for the many seasons thereafter, work must be commenced immediately while the weather is fair, as the spring season will not be sufficient for completion. Another reason for beginning the work immediately is the fact that it can be done much cheaper in the winter than in the spring.

In order that you may be able to decide intelligently upon the most essential requirements of the house, we are also submitting to you a report by a competent architect who had made a careful study of the premises and is competent to state just what the requirements are. The report is divided into two parts; one consisting of the things which MUST be done and the other of the things which we believe OUGHT to be done.

We trust you will consider this report carefully and give it the full attention it deserves.

Respectfully submitted,

UNITY HOUSE COMMITTEE.

Anna Kronhardt, chairman, Louis Reiff, vice-chairman, Peter Rottenberg, manager, Chas. Jacobson, secretary, Bertha Kaplan, Ida Shapiro, Dorat Leit, Max Schechter, Bella Winnick, Nathan Reisel.

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Wives of Great Men

(From a Journalist's Notebook.)

By L. M.

Wives of celebrated men are frequently touched upon in novel and story, though this subject but rarely receives consistent and sustained treatment in this medium of literary production. Ninety-nine of every hundred novels that are written remain "unfinished," so to say, whether with or without an epilogue. The most interesting part of the story, of how "he" and "she" fare after the happy ending is usually absent, to leave out of consideration the silly ones whom the authors chose to kill off by the various devices known to the profession.

Stories of life after marriage are rare and one is forced to look answer to the various problems which crowd married life not in belles lettres but in the other forms of literary productivity, such as memoirs, letters, diaries, etc. Among these post-nuptial problems one of the most interesting ones undoubtedly is: In the married life of a great man's wife usually a success or a failure?

It is a fact that the majority of wives of great men have kept the secrets of the family skeleton to themselves and have told little to the outside world. This world has regarded them as "happy"—for has not the sunlight of their husbands' immortality fallen upon them too? Other women have envied them and they themselves have played up as women supremely contented with their lot.

Occasionally, however, the truth comes out concerning the intimate

home life of a famous person. The world then learns that the great man is blessed with less family happiness and tranquillity than the lowliest of his fellow men. Not infrequently we learn that the home life of a celebrity is a veritable Hades. The remarkable thing about this is that the discovering public is always prone to excuse the woman in these cases and to extend its sympathy to the man. Needless to say, it is women who are the severest critics of the woman in question; it is they, "the greatest enemies of women," as some one has said, who cast the heavier stones. Perhaps, in the back of their heads is the thought: "If I were the life mate of this great man, what a paradise of a home I would have built for him!"

Yet, there are enough men, supposedly equipped with a better balanced sense of equity and judgment who line up on the side of the "unfortunate" great personality who is compelled to spend his days side by side with a "petty soul," and a "fury." A striking illustration of this attitude of the public is vividly presented in the life tragedy of the Countess Sophie Andreevna Tolstoy.

Who is not familiar with the story of the last days of Count Lev Nikolaevich Tolstoy, when, after having finally found it intolerable to remain any longer in Leonaya Poliana, he ran away to a strange little village where he died a few weeks later? This tragic closing event of the life of the great writer created a great

stir all over the world, and for his wife, the Countess, who was held responsible for her husband's flight from home, it became a source of endless halting and misery. She was vilified, maligned and, in true Russian style, denounced all around for the rest of her living days. She lived eleven years after her husband's death, having died only two years ago, leaving behind herself no better name than that of the execrable reputation of Xanthippe, Socrates' life mate.

And now Tolstoy's son, Lev, has published a little volume entitled "Reminiscences of My Father," in which he tries to rehabilitate his mother's name and to prove how unjust the world's opinion had been with regard to her. And notwithstanding the fact that in this little book the "little son of a great father" appears wholly unsympathetic and obviously saturated with the envy of a pigmy for a giant; that his arguments are unconvincing and his point of view that of a Moscow shopkeeper of olden days; that the spiritual portrait of his mother is not much improved by his writing—the essential thing one gathers from this book is that, while the family life of Count Tolstoy appears to have been undeniably a tragedy, the chief figure of this tragedy was not Count Tolstoy himself but his wife, the Countess Sophie.

Tolstoy-son portrays to us a woman who had achieved the happiness of being loved and admired by a personality whose greatness has for decades been recognized throughout the civilized world. For many years she implicitly believed that this great man belonged to her. And in the end, persons whom she loathed and despised had come and taken him away from her.

Thus Tolstoy-son describes this

tragic incident. He narrates how his father had strongly loved his mother, and how devoted and doting she had been towards him. With what admiration and worship she would transcribe his manuscripts for him scores of times—until from somewhere they came, these malevolent and southern persons, and broke up the idyll of their lives. Tolstoy-son describes the last few weeks before his father's flight, how his mother lived in the premonition of something awful that was about to happen, how after he had run away, the old Countess tried suicide several times, and how when the old Count was lying on his death-bed in the obscure little village of Ostapovo, the doctors would not permit his wife to enter the room. He speaks with bitterness and anger of the "inhumans" who misled his father and brought him to such an end.

Of course, to those who held Count Tolstoy in greater and higher esteem than as he appears in his "little son's" narrative, the tragedy will appear entirely different, much deeper, and far more general. It was not that "bad" people broke up Tolstoy's family life, but that this family life became a yoke and a straightjacket for him after he began to realize that his life belonged not to his small home but to the great human family, to humanity as a whole. It was not Sophie Tolstoy that he had rejected as an unfit mate for himself, but rather that for Count Tolstoy, the thinker and great philosopher, no woman could be a mate. "It is not an accident," a well-known scholar once told me, "that many of the greatest minds who had created new philosophical systems—Spinoza, Kant, Schopenhauer, Nietzsche—have remained unmarried, while in the lives of poets

(Continued on Page 7)

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A Labor Weekly

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EDITORIALS

DEMOCRACY AND FACTION POLITICS IN RUSSIA

We asked for no one's sanction and approval of our attitude with regard to the so-called leagues in our unions. From the first moment they appeared in our midst we did not hesitate to state our frank and firm opinion that they were detrimental to the existence of our organization, an opinion from which we were not swayed a hair's breadth by any amount of opposing thunder. We maintained that a labor union which would allow decisions and policies to be forced upon it by caucuses of "inner circles" could not thrive or survive—at least of all when such machinations are engineered by outside groups alien to it in spirit and purpose.

That's why we felt little disturbed when some of our New York demagogues who happen to parade now under a mask of "communism" attacked our stand as "despotic" and "violative of trade union freedom." We knew too well that our attitude was helping to safeguard the Union from a pernicious form of dictatorship which such faction politics was bound to bring in its wake. Against the mud-slinging of these fake communists we found an invincible defense in the dictates of our own conscience and in the clear, unblurred logic of the situation.

Nevertheless, we must admit, we were very pleasantly surprised to learn that our stand had been supported from no other source than the Russian Communist Party itself. The very party, in the name of which our local demagogues pretend to fight us, has adopted a stand similar to our own and on the same basis of democracy. Indeed, as we read about it in a recent correspondence from Moscow by Walter Duranty in the "New York Times," we for a moment became convinced that Kalinin, Kamenev and the other Russian Communists must have carefully read our own arguments in JUSTICE inasmuch as they reiterate almost word for word what we have had to state in these columns with regard to our own "leagues."

Before we briefly state to our readers what is actually transpiring at this moment in the life of the Communist Party in Russia, we should like first to quote from remarks by Kalinin, the President of the All-Russia Soviet Federation, on this subject:

"Preobrazhensky asks what we mean precisely by factions? I'll tell him. Factions are caucuses that discuss a question set for general discussion before-hand among themselves and make up their minds about it. Then when the subject comes up for general discussion they don't bother with discussion, but support the platform already decided by their caucus. That is not free discussion or democracy but simply support of a platform. In other words a faction, or caucus. Is that what you want?" (Cries of "No.") "Then tell that to Sapronoff and Preobrazhensky."

After which the meeting—so states the correspondent— which was composed of the most important communist groups in Moscow, adopted a resolution supporting Kamenev against his opponents.

It appears to us that, from the few words by Kalinin quoted above and from the fact that this meeting adopted a resolution in favor of it, it is clear that the work of our own would-be communists is essentially antagonistic to the principles of the party in whose mantle they appear to wrap themselves. It is obvious that what the Communists in Russia consider as eminently dangerous and undemocratic for their party cannot be made just and proper when it affects our unions. It is undeniably clear that the Russian Communists are regarding the various factions with their caucus "directions" emanating outside of the general party meetings as highly detrimental to the Communist Party. And it stands to reason that if such under-cover activities are a menace to the Communist Party with its iron discipline, a party which is the Government of Russia itself, that such faction caucuses and such dictation from outside are infinitely more dangerous to the existence of our own union with its limited discipline and its still more limited power. Small wonder that we have perceived at once in these factional group meetings a dire threat to the well-being and life of our organization.

And now that we have made this point clear to our readers we shall in a few words tell them what is going on in Russia at this moment.

"Bolshevism is on trial before itself," says Duranty in his correspondence, and it occurs to us that this phrase epitomizes succinctly the situation among the Communists in Russia. For a long time the Russian Bolsheviks have attempted to force communism upon Russia, and only after it became evident even to the most obstinate that this policy of compulsion had brought the country to the abyss of misery and the peasants were revolting in every nook and section of Russia did the Communist Party, speaking through Lenin, decide to inaugurate the New Economic Policy—the so-called Nep—a slow, graduated return to the old capitalist methods of commerce and barter. But the "Nep" did not bring with it the anticipated remedy for Russia, as a system

of even limited capitalism could not thrive under an order which does not permit a measure of "bourgeois" liberty. The workers themselves, constantly watched and supervised by the Government as if they were small children, could not develop their own initiative and latent energy either. The peasantry as a class followed a similar course of action, and as a result Russia today stands confronted with a terrible economic and social crisis.

The Communists who absolutely rule Russia today are at last becoming gravely concerned over the causes which would not permit Russia to recover. They have finally discovered one of these reasons in the fact that the Russian people are over-disciplined by the central authority of the governing party. They are now convinced that the Communist Party must be "democratized." This discovery is in itself a sign of considerable progress, when one considers that not so long ago the very term "democracy" was an expression of scorn and mockery in Soviet Russia, while "dictatorship" was sacred and unassailable. The Communists have at last come to learn that their party must be "democratized."

But how and how far shall it be democratized? On this point there appears to be a wide difference of opinion. One of the most prominent Communist leaders, the secretary of the Politburo, the lever of the Central Executive Committee which actually governs Russia, explains "democratization" as a change from the military system of strict obedience to the order of a small ruling body with virtually absolute powers, to a wider degree of independence and local self-government of the subordinate units. There are others, however, who are not content with such a nebulous interpretation of democracy. They want the local bodies to have the right to elect their secretaries from their own midst instead of being compelled to accept "recommendations" from the center. They want real democracy and the complete abolition of the existing dictatorship.

It is needless for us to say that we agree with those of the Communists who would go as far as possible in democratizing their own party and liberalizing life in all Russia. We are convinced that until real democracy is established in Russia and the heavy hand of Communist dictatorship is lifted, there can be no talk of actual progress in that country. And we are likewise convinced that things are headed in that direction.

The best support for this belief can be found in the fact that the Russian Communists have come to realize that democracy is incompatible with factional or caucus rule from outside, and that democracy is only possible through free, untrammelled discussion and decision at free unhampered assemblages. Yet, we frankly confess that if the democratization of Russia were to depend on the good will of the Communists alone, we should have our legitimate doubts with regard to its materialization. Somehow we think that persons or groups of persons who have become accustomed to unbridled dictatorship and power would find it very hard to give it up. But there are other factors, strong economic forces at play in Russia, and these are far more powerful than even the autocratic might of the small Bolshevik minority. These factors will force the Bolsheviks, sooner or later to give Russia the freedom and the democracy which are so essential for the progress and development of its great people.

CRY FOR HELP FROM THE GERMAN LABOR MOVEMENT

By this time our readers must be fully aware of the terrible plight in which the German labor unions find themselves today. To begin with, the destruction of the German currency has all but wiped out their funds and treasures accumulated in the course of many decades. If German capitalism were to have planned the destruction of the labor movement of that country, it could not have hit on a better plan than the abysmal debasement of the mark. Without exaggeration, it can be said that German high finance has in this manner literally confiscated every penny which at one time belonged to the great German trade unions.

Under the present horrible conditions of living in Germany, there can be no thought of regular dues-payment by the workers and even such occasional contributions as come in shrink away into nothingness before anything can be realized from them.

The net outcome of this situation is that the German labor movement, the strongest in the world, which until recently counted about eleven million members, is practically being starved to death. If organized labor all over the world, particularly in America, remains indifferent to the present plight of the German trade union movement, there can be no question that in a very short time the German trade unions will be a memory.

The prospect of such a misfortune and the possibility that the untiring and sustained work of generations of German Labor may be destroyed forever is appalling indeed. The downfall of the German labor unions will surely bring back conditions of industrial slavery to the workers of Germany. Already the eight-hour day is being fast done away with in Germany, and, while it still remains a legal fixture, the ten-hour day is quickly replacing it in many industrial enterprises. Soon the German workers will become so helpless that they will be compelled to accept any terms of labor which keep alive.

Will the workers the world over, and the workers of America, remain callous to such a misfortune? Were this calamity to be confined to the boundaries of Germany alone, it should be the sacred duty of workers everywhere not to allow it to pass. But it is clear as daylight that the breakdown of the German trade union movement will sooner or later have its effect on the labor movement in every industrial country in the world. If German workers are to be compelled to labor ten and twelve hours daily for a crust of bread, such a condition

Eleven Weeks of Fighting in Los Angeles

By SAMUEL LEFKOVITS

It will surely be of interest to the readers of our journal to become acquainted with the true strike situation in Los Angeles.

The cloakmakers of Los Angeles have had a good strong local union in the past, but, owing to a number of reasons, their organization has gone to pieces and as a result conditions in the shops grew to be unbearable. The few workers who remained loyal to the Union have appealed time and again to the International to send an organizer to Los Angeles to help them reorganize the local and to restore union conditions in the factories. Towards the end of July last, President Sigman, at the instruction of the General Executive Board, asked me to proceed to Los Angeles and start organizing work without delay.

I arrived in Los Angeles on August 4 and found practically no union of our workers in the city. The employers worked their men under whatever system they pleased—piece-work or week-work—whichever paid them best. I at once formed an organization committee and the work of getting the cloakmakers interested in the organization was set on foot. In spite of opposition from the employers and other obstacles, the workers began to flock to the union in large numbers.

A sample of the counter-agitation used by the employers to thwart us in our work the readers can gather from the following warning sent out to the members of the local employers' association in our trades by the Los Angeles Merchants and Manufacturers' Association, as stubborn a union-hating body as ever existed in our industry anywhere in the country.

"WARNING—STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL"

"TO THE MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATED APPAREL MANUFACTURERS."

"We have been reliably informed that SAMUEL LEFKOVICH, Vice-president and general organizer of the Ladies' Garment Workers, has arrived from New York for the purpose of organizing the garment workers in this city to a 100 per cent basis.

"Lefkovich wears a large flowing mustache and a Van Dyke beard.

"We urge our members to watch their factories very carefully, and to prevent any propaganda being spread in their places. They are also requested to notify the Secretary of any attempt by outsiders or within the factory, to organize the plants.

Yours truly,

(Signed) EUGENE A. HOMES, Secretary."

On August 30 I sent a letter to the employers informing them that the

cloakmakers of Los Angeles had organized a union and were determined to get back union conditions, and, as it has always been the policy of the International Union to adjust its differences on behalf of our workers in a peaceful way if possible rather than through striking, I asked them to reply by September 10 stating their intentions concerning a settlement. When that time limit expired only two firms replied to my letter; so I tried again to reach a number of employers who belonged to the association, but as I was not successful in that the cloakmakers decided unanimously to strike in order to bring the employers to terms.

Accordingly, the general strike was declared and 95 per cent of the cloak workers employed in the Los Angeles shops responded to it. Shortly after, the workers walked out, and in spite of the efforts of the Manufacturers' Association, we succeeded after several conferences in settling with the Protective Cloak Manufacturers' Association, which consists of nine firms, and also with nine independent shops. This means that 65 per cent of the strikers went back to work and that 35 per cent of them are still on strike since that time. The group of employers that refuse to settle with the union are kept back deliberately through the influence of the above-named Merchants and Manufacturers' Association.

It may be of some interest to state that two of the employers who vowed that they would never, in their lives settle with the union, have kept their word and died without settling. One firm, which was promised by the M. & M. full financial help if they did not settle, last week went into bankruptcy. This case has produced quite an impression in Los Angeles and tended materially to impair the prestige of the M. & M., hitherto regarded by employers and workers alike as all-powerful in this city. In many trades workers were afraid to organize and strike, as they believed that they could accomplish nothing because the employers had the backing of the M. & M. If our International through this strike in Los Angeles will accomplish any more than to destroy this belief in the M. & M., it will have accomplished one of the biggest things for organized labor on the Pacific Coast.

We have here in Los Angeles a very severe law against picketing. No picketing is permitted near the shops or several blocks from the shops on strike, and this of course works a great difficulty in conducting the strike. To overcome this difficulty, we have sent out strikers as organizers to try to persuade those who go to work

to join the union, but even then the police arrested them. Up to the present moment, our lawyer and friend, Chaim Shapiro, was successful in securing the discharge of those who were arrested. The M. & M. kept up the fight against us and have especially tried to "get" me. They have charged me in affidavits with abetting gangsters to beat up some of the strikebreakers; they have arrested five of the most active strikers, including the chairman of the organization committee, under the charge of "attempt to kill." These five were held for 30 hours incommunicado and were given the "degree." The police warned them to say that I advised and instructed them to engage slugs to beat up the scabs, but in spite of all these methods, the M. & M. were not successful in fastening anything on me or on the arrested strikers.

All these hardships notwithstanding, the strikers were still legally determined to carry the strike to a successful finish. The reason in the cloak trade has been a very bad one in this city and work was even scarce in the settled shops, as climatic conditions were against us. The weather has not been so hot in Los Angeles in eight years. In October and November, women are wearing skirts for street wear and there appears as yet no need for their heavy wraps. If it had not been for this extraordinary weather, we are positive that the strike would have been settled long ago in favor of the union. The strike was supported mainly by the \$1,000 weekly benefit sent by the International and also by the workers who went back to work, who paid 10 per cent of their earnings into the strike fund. Recently, owing to the slump in the trade, the income from this assessment amounted to little. As the expenses of the strike were increasing, the strike committee decided to lay the situation before the International Union and asked further advice on what to do. They requested the General Office to help them further to the extent of \$500 a week to carry on the strike. President Sigman, with the consent of the General Executive Board, wired the strikers that their request was granted. And on November 27, at a general meeting of Local 52, it was decided to go on fighting on the basis of a reduced weekly benefit for the strikers.

Thus, after ten weeks of strike, the fight is renewed with even greater vigor and energy. The employers that have not yet settled have only two ways open for them—either to consider the interests of the workers and go out of business. Needless to say, the cloakmakers of Los Angeles are

INTERNATIONAL CALENDAR

By H. SCHOOLMAN

This Week Twelve Years Ago

The Cloak Joint Board of New York decides to take energetic steps to do away with week and section work in the finishing branch of the trade.

Cloak Pressers, Local 68, of Brownsville, 600 strong, unites with the New York pressers, Local 25.

The Delancy Street office of the Cloak Joint Board reports that in their district 500 shops have finally installed electric power. (In 1910, the employers obligated themselves to abolish foot-power machines.)

An impressive meeting of all shop chairmen of Local 1 is being held at 62 East 4th Street to seek ways and means of breaking the new section of the employers, to discharge shop chairmen and active members of the union.

very thankful to the International for the great help that they have received from it, and for the continuation of this support. We have here a branch of the Needle Trades Workers' Alliance which has now called a conference of all progressive labor organizations in this city to help with the strike.

We are warning cloakmakers everywhere not to come now to Los Angeles. We sincerely ask locals not to issue transfers to members going to this city, as they might be inveigled by employers to injure the cause of their striking brothers in Los Angeles.

Wives of Great Men

(Continued from page 5)

and artists women, on the contrary, play such a big part."

There is a similar story to this tragedy in that book of books, the Bible, and it reads like this: After young Moses had run away from Egypt to Medina, he married there Zipporah, the daughter of Isra. It was a love match and we may imagine that they were getting on quite happily. Later, however, after God had revealed Himself to Moses and had ordained him to liberate the Jewish people from bondage and to give them a Gospel, Moses left his wife and children.

It is quite likely that tongues have been busy wagging about Zipporah and her conduct too. Fortunately there were no newspapers in those days and the family tragedy did not receive the due measure of publicity which it must have deserved.

must find a reflection on labor conditions everywhere. The help that we may give today to the German labor unions is therefore only self-help; the aid that we may extend to the unions of Germany in their fight for existence is indirectly self-aid. We must not allow the German labor movement to go under and we have the means to prevent it, if we only muster the will and the wish.

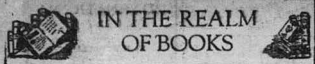
A few months ago our International sent \$1,000 to the German trade unions, the only contribution which, to the best of our knowledge, has been forwarded from the needle trade unions in America, to Germany. And what about the other unions? Surely they know as well as we do about this terrible condition of our German fellow-workers. Surely they too would not want to see the German labor movement submerged in the present catastrophe.

But it is not only the labor movement in Germany that finds itself in such an awful situation. The Socialist movement of that country likewise is in imminent danger of being destroyed, and forward-looking men and women who know of the significance of the Socialist movement for Germany and for the rest of the world must now rally to its support. The German Socialist movement is closely allied and interwoven with the German labor movement. They are one soul and one body, and it can be easily conceived that help extended to the labor move-

ment and not to the Social Democracy of Germany will only be a work half done.

Samuel Gompers, the president of the American Federation of Labor, though a strict trade unionist, did not fail to take cognizance of this fact. It is true that the American Federation of Labor is issuing its appeal to organized workers in America for the German trade unions only. Nevertheless, each trade union in forwarding its contribution may decide how much of it is to be given to the German labor unions and how much to the Social Democracy. For the Germans here, the cause of the labor movement are equally vital, and, since not all our American trade unions are advanced enough to see that, they will quite likely help the trade unions of Germany only, which will leave to our own unions the double task of aiding both the labor movement and the Socialist.

Above all, this help must not be put off or unduly delayed. Every day makes the menace of a total breakdown of the German trade unions greater and greater. Our unions must begin at once this work of relief. There are various ways of achieving it: a tax may be levied upon the members, an hour or two of work might be fixed as the contribution of each worker, or the local unions might advance at once certain sums from their treasuries. These are things for the unions themselves to decide, but whatever they are to do they must do as quickly as possible.



IN THE REALM OF BOOKS

India's Saint

Gandhi The Apostle. By Haridas T. Muzumdar. Chicago. Universal Publishing Co. 1923.

By SYLVIA KOPALD

They call him "Saint." And by that tribute they point both his glory and his limitations. Mahatma Gandhi, Mr. Muzumdar's biography has the plaudit that comes from reciting the history of a glamorous exciting man. It has even more. For Muzumdar is a disciple, a disciple who sets limitations and formulates doubts—but who does so under the spell that the beloved master weaves over him. Disciples, however critical, who write about the master, pen not biographies but gospels. Mr. Muzumdar's book is a gospel.

Gandhi has so much attention, has struck so deep an appeal in the hearts of the masses that it is necessary to realize clearly his significance. Gandhi speaks for the oppressed and the disinherited. He suffers with the suffering and rebels with the rebellious. But he is not an expression of the modern labor movement. He has the knowledge of Gandhi's record had not made this unmistakably clear to us, a book like Muzumdar's certainly must. Gandhi is a "saint." Saints belong not to an industrial age, but to a religious one. That is it. Gandhi is a religious idol. His nobility is like the nobility of a Christ. And so, I fear, will be his inefficacy.

It may be unfair to apply to Gandhi the tests of leadership developed by the oppressed in industrial countries. Gandhi delivers his message to a people fighting a political battle, in a peculiar environment and a peculiar situation. Gandhi seeks home rule for his beloved India which for almost two centuries has lain under the imperialist heel of Britain. Home rule has become his aim only after bitter disillusion. The history of his people as implanted in their hearts a mysticism and idealism which makes him apt pupils of a new "religious" gospel. But if Gandhi wins his program, the oppressed will still have oppression. It does may change, but of its substance.

Gandhi does not seem to realize his. Many of his disciples do. That is why they move ahead of him. Yet after granting that Gandhi should not be judged by the standards of organized workers, we may still insist that he has the right to judge him. For Gandhi has elevated his means into an end. Through passive resistance, civil disobedience, and non-cooperation he hopes to win Home Rule (Swaraj) for India. But the means employed—passive resistance (Satyagraha) attains far more importance in his mind than he and pursued. He urged passive resistance before Home Rule; he urged it in different struggles and he talks of its spread and acceptance through the world, presumably in other battles than that for home rule. What has passive resistance to offer the workers?

Mr. Muzumdar's book gives one a keen appreciation of the peculiar setting in which Gandhi has placed his reaching. The first part of his book tells the story of India, of how an old civilization came under the heel of upstart imperialism. It is another tragic testimonial to the ruthless brutality with which the "white man takes up his burden." For the old India was a set mould with her religious and caste system; her people knew art and philosophy and well-being. Her art and philosophy have won the admiration and respect of the

greatest artists and philosophers; her riches; alas for India, won the attention of our business men. Artists and philosophers are willing to rest and borrow; business men must own and control.

The struggle for India's trade began in the fifteenth century. In the course of that struggle and as a result of it, America was discovered. The struggle enlisted Venice, Genoa, the Arabs, Portugal, Holland, England and France. With the end of the Seven Years War (1757-1763) Britain possessed the field unchallenged and India for a century was at the tender mercies of the East India trading company, profit hunting.

The British found, in the words of Robert Clive "a country of inexhaustible riches." While its traders piled up enormous fortunes for themselves, the once happy Indians "were reduced to an extremity of wretchedness" by a government that "was not to be shaken off," that was "oppressive as the most oppressive form of barbarian despotism and yet strong with all the strength of civilization."

Beneath the tragic results ran the old, old story of causes; bitter exploitation; political oppression; resentment and sporadic revolt on the one hand, the hopeless resignation of a subject people on the other; promises made and broken; strong pledges given to revolution and diluted realization after the revolt. For a century the Indians bore their cross with meekness. Then came the Sepoy Rebellion (1857) and Queen Victoria's Proclamation—another pledge. After thirty years of the diluted realization, the Indians founded their Indian National Congress. Tugs between moderates and extremists with England placating the moderates and persecuting the extremists made India's political history from 1885 until the Great War.

The War's propaganda was another pledge. Self-determination of nations. After the war—the Versailles Peace—Indians had enlisted, fought, given to and served Britain at war. This time they wanted real reforms. They got the Montagu-Chelmsford Report and the famous Rowlatt Act. By this act, Britain ruled in 1919 that "all anarchical and revolutionary crimes" be tried by a panel of three judges without jury and that the home of suspects might be searched without a warrant. This return for the war sacrifice roused India to flaming anger. Then Gandhi came.

The picture of this quiet, intense little man stepping between India and India's anger to give the same direction is an impressive thing. He is a small man, weighing less than a hundred pounds; a spirit whose intensity has burned away most of the flesh which houses it. Born in 1869, his fifty-six years have been a continual revolt and service. Well-born and belonging to the third of the four great castes, Gandhi has revolted against the traditional, tested the new, and taken what seems best to him in both. There is hardly space here to give the details of his eventful and noble life. But the twenty years that passed between 1902 and 1914 must be recorded. For in these years he fought the fight of the Indians in South Africa and developed his program of passive resistance.

The young lawyer fresh from the

British University who went to plead a law suit in South Africa found a cause. When the British took that territory they found potential riches without the cheap labor necessary to harvest it. They followed a course very similar to that pursued by the capitalists of young America in the seventies and eighties. Promising glowing things they recruited immigrant workers and gave them exploitation, discrimination, and untold suffering. When Gandhi came out of a railroad car to make room for a white who wanted the compartment for himself, he understood what his fellow-Indians who had been lured to Africa must be suffering. For twenty years he struggled with them and for them until discrimination dimmed and was wiped off the statute books.

Satyagraha had been the tool those fighters developed and when the struggle reached fever pitch, in India, Gandhi offered it again to his fellow men. They accepted and the ferocious Rowlatt Act met the martial. Fast days, in which Indian life stopped, and during which the Indians prayed and attempted to practice "love," the British answered with bombs and machine guns. The Amritsar Outrage and the Bombay Riots. But the Rowlatt Act was defeated. When the British offered the Treaty of Sevres to the Turks and showed no signs of offering any approach to real home rule in India, Gandhi again launched passive resistance. But this time Gandhi fought. On March 10, 1922, he was arrested and after a trial in which judge and prisoner respected each other, he was sentenced to six years in prison. The first year of his term has not yet drawn to a close.

In the fifth chapter of the second part of his book, Muzumdar lists what

he calls the "gains of passive resistance." It seems to make an impressive list, but on closer examination, only one of the "gains" is clear cut and definite. "Three years of struggle rendered the Rowlatt Act null and void. That it made other nations familiar with India's struggle and inspired literature and preserved Indian self-respect and regained political to jail life, etc., cannot be called a result of passive resistance, exclusively, but rather than can the revulsion of the Treaty of Sevres. Any other form of struggle would have accomplished the same results. It was not passive resistance that made Ireland a center of world attention and won her Dominion Home Rule. And Gandhi is in jail.

When force lies on the other side, passive resistance must remain a doubtful weapon. Men who are attacked cannot always turn the other cheek. The Indian National Congress, even in 1921, heard demands for guerrilla warfare and 1920 saw the Moplah uprising. That is why the comparisons that have been made between Lenin and Gandhi seem so unfair. "When I think of Lenin, I think of Napoleon. But when I think of Gandhi, I think of Jesus Christ." The West has produced a Lenin, strong, masterful, relentless, able in logic and method. The East has given birth to a Gandhi, equally strong, masterful, and relentless. But whilst the former pierces his faith on force, the latter relies on non-resistance. One trusts the sword, the other trusts the spirit. . . . Thus Ben C. Spoor, M. P.

But Lenin did not make the first appeal to force. He accepted the offer of peace. The enemy would not have it so. Imagine offering passive resistance to England, France, Poland, Kachuk, Denikin, Wrangel, and the rest of the counter-revolutionary band.

No, passive resistance is only for slaves and really free men. Workers under capitalism are neither. Gandhi has no message for them.

Gandhi is the saint of India.

Thumb-Printing Immigrants

By NORMAN THOMAS

Our idea of how not to handle immigrants is found in Secretary Davis' latest act. On the Saturday Evening Post (December 14) after the newcomers to our shores have properly admired the Statue of Liberty and got through the immigrant tests, our worthy Secretary would have them enrolled and given an identification card which we presume, though Secretary Davis does not mention it, would contain the immigrant's thumbprint. The immigrant who received this priceless certificate of freedom would be obliged to report annually to the Federal authorities.

The Secretary advocates this old-fashioned Russian or Prussian device on the pious ground that the card would establish the immigrant's right to be in this country and receive the benefits of our educational system. Just how the possession of an identification card would do more for the alien than is being done is not explained. The Secretary's real reason follows: "Under this system we would have no difficulty weeding out the illicit immigrant, the smuggled Oriental and the apostle of demagoguery."

In other words, because a few Chinese are smuggled into America, because some immigrants are suspected of radical tendencies, every immigrant must submit to a system of registration and espionage by bureaucrats of the departments which have been responsible for the stupid influx of Chinese and the wild hysteria of various anti-Red raids. W. G. Burns with his fantastic notions about the Red menace would have his

finger in the pie—and the American workers know what that means.

If some pretext can be found to issue identification cards to unskilled workers, it won't be long before some other pretext will be sought for to register the rest of us so the bosses and their obliging government agents can keep track of us more easily.

We do not believe that Congress will give Mr. Davis the power he asks. That he asks it, ought to be a reason for liberty-loving Americans to demand the Secretary's resignation. It may be necessary for some reason to limit the immigration of foreign-born workers. There is no reason at all for treating them as criminals or suspects.

The time to scotch this snake of espionage is while it is little.

RAND SCHOOL NOTES

On Saturday afternoon, December 22, at 1:30 o'clock, Dr. Scott Nease will discuss "The Slowness of Europe" in his Current Events class at the Rand School, 7 East 15th Street.

The Saturday Afternoon Camera-derie, under the joint auspices of the Rand School and the League for Industrial Democracy, will meet on Saturday afternoon, December 22, at 3:15 for tea, to be followed at 4 o'clock by a program of Negro music and Negro spirituals arranged by Dr. Augustus Granville Hill. The Camera-derie is held in the Debs Auditorium, 7 East 15th Street.



FOREIGN ITEMS

SWEDEN

SOCIAL ATTACHES TO INTERNATIONAL LABOR OFFICE.

"Arbete", the Socialist organ of Malmo, has in one of its recent issues taken up the question of social attaches: In connection with the death of Wilhelm Jansson, the social attaché of the Swedish embassy at Berlin, and the new appointment which is thereby necessary, the journal proposes that a social attaché shall be nominated to the International Labor Office at Geneva, and writes: "The social attachés appointed to Geneva by other countries have proved very useful; among other things, they have given substantial aid to the work done by the delegations of their respective countries at the international conferences, and thus effected an economy of work and money. Extremely valuable work can be done at Geneva by social attachés who give their whole time and attention to questions of international social legislation."

GERMANY

STATISTICS ON UNEMPLOYMENT.

Of the members of the Clothing Workers' Union, there were at the end of October only 11.9 per cent of the male, and 17.3 per cent of the female workers in full employment; 61.7 per cent of the male and 22.9 per cent of the female members were wholly unemployed, and the rest were doing part time work.

ROUMANIA

DOCK-WORKERS' UNION.

On the 4th, 5th and 6th of November the Union of Dock-Workers and Carters of the Roumanian seaports held their congress at Galatz. Forty-two delegates attended, representing 5,518 workers. (There are altogether 8,000 dock-workers and 3,000 carters in Roumania.) The congress unanimously resolved to affiliate with the I. T. P. Other resolutions were adopted urging closer cooperation with and more intensive support of the various unions. The rules were radically revised in order to bring them into line with I. P. T. U. policy.

JUGO-SLAVIA

THE TRADE UNION MOVEMENT.

New life is stirring in the Jugo-Slavian trade union movement. On November 25th a metal workers' congress was held at Belgrade for the purpose of reuniting the two metal workers' unions which both hold Amsterdam views. One of these, the Metal Workers' Union, caters for the whole country with the exception of the Slovene districts, where the National Metal Workers' Association, one of the best and strongest unions of Jugo-Slavia, holds sway. The amalgamation of the unions adopting the Amsterdam platform has hitherto been delayed by the disruptive tactics of the Communists. Matters are now however more settled, and negotiations for amalgamation are being resumed. Progress is also being made among the Bosnian miners and smelters. On October 30th a joint meeting was held at Vares by these unions in order to arrange for their amalgamation.

On November 15th, "Zelenicar," the trade union journal of the Slovenian railwaymen, will be discontinued. On the same day the "Delavec," a trade union journal for the whole of the Slovenian trade unions, will initiate a fortnightly issue, together with its supplement "Zelenicar." The "Delavec" will also be the organ of the railwaymen. This amalgamation will mean a gain in the strength of the trade union press.

HOLLAND

COMMUNISTS DENOUNCE UNIONISTS.

The Communist "International Press Bulletin" of November 10th contains an article on "The Amsterdam-Moscow Unity Front," from which the following is an extract:

"The representatives of the Amsterdam International are in the habit of cooperating actively with the international bourgeoisie. They have done this again recently on the occasion of the last International Labor Conference at Geneva, where we are assured that d'Aragon acted as the technical adviser of the 'labor representative,' Rossoni, the general secretary of the Fascist Unions. On the other hand, scarcely any trace is to be found of their willingness to cooperate with the revolutionary wing of the working classes."

In reply to this, it should be noted that d'Aragon, in full agreement with the leaders of the Italian trade unions, has refused to act as the technical adviser of Rossoni, since the latter's organization cannot be regarded as a labor organization. By his refusal to cooperate with the Fascists, d'Aragon avoids the risk of again coming into contact with people who once belonged to the revolutionary wing of the Italian working classes, and by whom d'Aragon and the leaders of the Italian Confederation of Labor were described as reactionaries.

CANADA

MINIMUM WAGE CUT.

The minimum wage board of this province has cut women's wages from \$14 to \$12.50 a week in the retail manufacturing and laundering industries. The first minimum was only on paper, however, as it was established a year ago but never enforced.

RAIL MEN MAY STRIKE.

Officials of the Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees announce that Canadian members are voting on a strike proposition. More than 30,000 employees are affected. Certain Canadian railroads refuse to accept a conciliation board award granting certain classes of these workers a wage increase of 2 cents an hour.

The men are now voting on whether they will enforce their original demand of 5 cents an hour.

DOMESTIC ITEMS

TO TEST CALIFORNIA ANTI-RADICAL INJUNCTION.

A test of the injunction issued last August by Judge Busick at Sacramento prohibiting the I. W. W. from carrying on organization activities will be made of the case of Harry Russell, just arrested in Los Angeles for alleged violation of the injunction. Russell is one of seventeen men to whom Judge Sidney Reeve read the injunction recently upon the dismissal of criminal syndicalism indictments.

WARDS MAY SELL.

It is stated that the United Bakeries Corporation is negotiating to buy the Ward Baking Company. This will result in a gigantic bread concern with \$75,000,000 assets and plants in 30 cities. One of the Wards is the chairman of the board of directors of the United Bakeries Corporation. The Ward concern is engaged in a war with organized bakers because of its anti-union attitude.

PRINTERS RAISE WAGES.

Newspaper printers in Detroit, Michigan, have secured a 20 per cent wage increase. The dispute was first referred to an arbitrator, but he "balled" matters up so that the printers asked its international union for strike sanction. The executive council delegated President Howard to adjust the matter. He secured an agreement for \$1.04½ an hour for day work and \$1.10 the first year, and \$1.13 and \$1.20 for the second and third years, with \$1.27 for the "lobster shift." The old rates were 95 cents and \$1 an hour.

URGE TAX EXEMPTION.

The exemption of taxes on new buildings will encourage the building of houses and thus relieve the housing shortage, is the opinion of the united neighboring houses, comprising 50 of the larger settlement organizations in New York City.

It is declared that the minimum standards of health and sanitation in the maintenance of existing low-priced tenements have been shockingly reduced to a standard wholly inconsistent with decency and public safety. Such standards require redefinition and the imposition of severe penalties for violation, it is stated.

EMPLOYMENT RECEDES.

Factory employment reports for November from Albany are not encouraging. Employment went down almost 2 per cent, although November is usually the best month of pre-Christmas activity, says the State department of labor.

Employment in the manufacturing industries, however, is still at a high level. Pay rolls have risen steadily and show a substantial increase over those of last year, according to the statement.

BILL ASKS PRESIDENT TO EXPLAIN DISMISSALS.

Senator Caraway wants the president to inform the Senate why 28 officers and employees of the bureau of engraving in Washington were dismissed in March, last year.

The dismissals were made in violation of civil service rules and without giving any reason to the employees.

"EQUAL RIGHTS" FIGHT LAUNCHED IN SENATE.

Senator Curtis of Kansas has introduced a resolution proposing an "equal rights" amendment to the constitution. It is sponsored by the national woman's party and is intended to abolish the term "male" in the federal organic act, thereby putting men and women on the same basis.

Foes of the proposal show that it will wipe out all legislation designed to improve the condition of women wage workers.

AGAINST WAGE REDUCTIONS.

The building trades employers' association of New York announce that next year they will maintain the 1923 wage rates and bonus.

HIGH WAGES BENEFIT ALL.

Frank Vanderlip, financier, does not join the pack in its cry against "high wages."

"High wages mean increasing purchasing power," he said. "While wages of labor are high, workers today are more efficient."

JUDGES EXTEND POWER.

While efforts will be made during congress to curb federal judges in contempt cases, the power of these judges in receiverships will also be given consideration. These two issues were joined in the Craig case that has practically ended by the president's "remission of sentence."

From every section of the country strong protests are registered on the policy of federal judges aiding corporations to release themselves from local and state franchises, the terms of which they find unsatisfactory.

Citizens are strongly objecting to the practice of these courts aiding corporations in their contests with states and municipalities.

BUYING BUM STOCK.

The International railway company of Buffalo is planning to have its strike-breaking motormen and conductors buy stock in this concern, which lost more than \$1,000,000 the past year. The concern is owned by the same parties who own the Philadelphia street car system. In the latter city a company "union" has operated. Its wages are based on the rates paid in union cities.



EDUCATIONAL COMMENT AND NOTES

Extension Division

The Educational Department is thoroughly aware of the difficulty of reaching the great majority of the members of the I. L. G. W. U. A comparatively small number can be expected to attend the classes in the Unity Centers and the Workers' University. The others are very busy. They are occupied with union business, committee work, etc., or have family matters to engross their attention. Still, they must be reached. And therefore, the Educational Department made strenuous efforts in the past to arrange courses and lectures in offices of local unions and at business meetings of unions.

In these courses and lectures, a great many of our members who came to the office of the union, utilized the time to participate in the discussion and to receive a great deal of information on important labor subjects.

This will be continued during the coming season. Courses and lectures in Yiddish, English, Russian and Italian, will be given on American Labor Problems, the I. L. G. W. U., American Government, the American Labor Movement, Parliamentary Law, Literature, Health, etc. Prominent speakers and teachers have been engaged for this work.

In addition to these, a series of lectures and discussions on current problems will be given in the auditorium of the I. L. G. W. U. building.

It is hoped that the Extension Division will soon become the most important branch of the educational activities of our union. It is needless to point out that, while a small number of intelligent and well-informed

workers can do a great deal to help the labor movement, the ultimate hope of the world lies in an intelligent rank and file.

We must spare no effort to reach the thousands of men and women who work in the shops, and who are the final arbiters of the policies of the Labor Movement. These masses of workers must be reached if the labor movement is to achieve its aim. It is only by developing the phase of our work which enables us to reach them, that we can hope to complete our task successfully.

Our members will doubtless observe that our plans for the coming season are ambitious. There is not the slightest doubt in our mind that every bit can, and will be carried out successfully. But our success does not depend on our efforts alone. The Educational Department and the teachers connected with it, will do their utmost to carry out these plans. However, very little can be accomplished, if we do not have the active cooperation and support of our members. We can organize classes, arrange courses and engage teachers. This is all very well, but without students, it is all in vain. And our students must come from the great numbers who constitute the membership of our union.

With the cooperation of the intelligent and knowledge-seeking men and women in the I. L. G. W. U., our educational work will continue more successful than in the past, an example for other labor organizations to follow, and a splendid testimonial to the energy, enterprise and efforts of the I. L. G. W. U.

Centralization and Decentralization

Some of our local unions in New York are taking up seriously the question of education for their members. To interest the larger groups in their educational activities, they are arranging opening exercises which consist of a musical program and of a few short talks on the importance of workers' education within the trade unions. Our Educational Department encourages our locals to do so, and cooperates with them to the fullest extent.

We do not believe that the organization of the activities produces many benefits if they are organized and conducted from a central office, which is especially equipped for such work. It prepares courses, makes arrangements with instructors and lectures, works out the problems of subject material and its presentation, etc. But we also believe, that when it comes to the "distribution" of these educational facilities, it should be done through these individual agencies—the local unions.

It is our aim to make the locals responsible for the success of our educational activities. Knowing human nature as we do, we know that people are more interested in a thing, not only when they have direct connection with it, but when they are actually in charge of it. Our Educational Department conducts and is directly in charge of activities going on in the Unity Centers and the Workers' University. But even on these, we consult the Educational Committees of our local unions and our student council. But in the activities carried on by the Extension Division, such as courses in Yiddish, Russian and English given in different parts of the city and, lectures given at the business meetings of the local unions, we share the responsibility of conducting these with the local unions. Joint activities are already conducted by us with locals 1 and 17. We expect that more of our locals will take advantage of the opportunity offered by the Educational Department.

Weekly Calendar

WORKERS' UNIVERSITY

Washington Irving High School
Irving Place and 16th St.

Room 529

Saturday, December 22

1:30 p. m. Bird Stair—Social Forces in Contemporary Literature—Critics of American Life.

2:30 p. m. David J. Saposs—American Labor in Modern Civilization—Political Attempts of Labor to Reorganize the Existing System.

Sunday, December 23

10:30 a. m. H. A. Overstreet—Foundations of Modern Civilization—Tools of Civilization.

11:30 a. m. H. J. Carman—Political and Social Institutions in Modern Civilization—The Worker and Contemporary Civilization.

Saturday, December 29

I. L. G. W. U. Building.

1:30 p. m. N. B. Fagin—The Philosophy of Anatole France.

UNITY CENTERS

Closed next week on account of Christmas holidays. Reopen January 7.

EXTENSION DIVISION

Friday, December 21

RUSSIAN

Russian-Polish Branch—315 E. 10th Street

8:00 p. m. David Z. Krinkin—Social History of Russia.

YIDDISH

Saturday, December 22 and 29

Local 9—228 Second Avenue.

1:00 p. m. Max Levin—Modern Economic Institutions.

Sunday, December 23

Local 1—1581 Washington Avenue, Bronx.

10:30 a. m. Max Levin—The American Labor Movement.

Forward Building, 175 E. Broadway

12:00 M. H. Rogoff—American Civilization.

ENGLISH

Thursday, December 27

Local 17—Reeper Makers' Educational Center

142 Second Avenue

6:00 to 8:00 p. m. Mr. Goldberg will instruct in the English language.

Friday, December 21 and 28

Labor Lyceum, 219 Sackman Street, Brooklyn

8:00 p. m. Rehearsal I. L. G. W. U. Chorus. Members of the International are invited.

OUT-OF-TOWN EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

BALTIMORE

YIDDISH

Tuesday, January 8

Office of Joint Board, 201 Ainslie Street.

8:00 p. m. N. B. Fagin—How to Understand the Social and Economic History of the United States.

CLEVELAND

Monday, December 24

Office of Joint Board, 203 Superior Building.

8:00 p. m. H. A. Aikins—Applied Psychology.

Thursday, December 27

8:00 p. m. E. L. Olyer—Alms, Problems and Tactics of the American Trade Union Movement, with Special Reference to the I. L. G. W. U.

PHILADELPHIA

Friday, December 28

1035 Spruce Street.

7:45 p. m. Alexander Fichandler—Social Psychology.

ALL LECTURES IN ENGLISH UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED.

The Unity Centers Will Be Closed During The Christmas Holiday

Our Unity Centers will close after the session on Wednesday, December 19th, and will be reopened Monday, January 7th.

Miss Sylvia Kopald will resume her course on Economics and the Labor Movement at the Lower Bronx Unity Center, Brown Place and 156th Street, on Monday, January 7th, and on Tuesday, January 8th, at the Bronx Unity Center, Crotona Park East, and Charlotte Street.

Miss Margaret Daniels will continue her course on Trade Unionism in the United States at the Harlem Unity Center, 103d Street near Fifth Avenue, on Monday, January 7.

Mr. Wilbert will continue his course on Modern Economic Institutions at the East Side Unity Center, Fourth Street, near First Avenue, at 9 p. m.

During this short vacation our members who attend these courses will have an opportunity to look over the lesson outlines. If any are missing, they can obtain a duplicate copy at the office of the Educational Department.

Members who wish to join the courses for the second term can do so now. For further information they can apply at the office of our Educational Department, 3 West 16th Street.

A LECTURE IN SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY BY ALEXANDER FICHANDLER FOR OUR MEMBERS IN PHILADELPHIA, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 28

Alexander Fichandler, our educational director, will give the second lecture on Social Psychology for our members in Philadelphia at 1035 Spruce Street on Friday, December 28th. The third and last lecture will be given on Friday, January 4th.

Admission free to members of the I. L. G. W. U.

H. ROGOFF ON AMERICAN CIVILIZATION

H. Rogoff will start his course in Yiddish on American Civilization this Sunday at 12 noon, at the Forward Building.

At the request of our Educational Department Mr. Rogoff specially prepared this course for our members. It will be a review of American history and how and by whom America was made and what it is.

The lecture will last one hour. Admission is free to members of the I. L. G. W. U.

The Week In Local 10

By JOSEPH FISH

In compliance with the order of the General Executive Board of the International, this year's election of the cutters was a "leagueless" one. No ballots were issued as in the past elections and no slates were printed. In spite of that, however, the result of the election held on Saturday, December 15th, may be considered an endorsement of the administration's policies.

The total vote, though not as large as it was last year, bore up, nevertheless, with the usual interest manifested by the membership in the local's elections. The total vote was nearly 300. If account is taken of the unusual hardship to which the members were subjected during the past few months because of lack of work, the number of votes cast may be considered very large.

It was not an unusual thing for officers to be approached by members and be told that they had borrowed money in order to pay their dues and be eligible to vote. There are locals in the International with a much greater membership than the cutters' local possesses. No more than 10 per cent of these members ever participate in an election. The normal number of votes cast is about 6 per cent, while the normal number of the cutters who participate in an election is 25 per cent.

There was one distinctive feature which marked this election and that is the total abstinence of the usual electioneering. It is not exaggerating to say that the union this year was saved four months' of loss of energy and waste of time. Past elections were generally begun by meetings of "leagues" at least that many months in advance. A week hardly passed during these months that a meeting of one of the three "leagues" did not take place.

This year nominations were held just two weeks prior to the election. The constitution was actually amended for just such a reason as would prevent waste of time because of campaigns. The Constitution Committee seriously considered making even a smaller lapse of time between nominations and elections. However, this was impossible as at least two weeks' time was necessary within which the secretary could have sent out and received resignation blanks, have the ballots printed, and such other routine work done as is concomitant with an election.

Members who took part in the last election and who have witnessed the elections of previous years remarked concerning the absolute quietness attending this election. The elections of past years were preceded by months of meetings, at which conspiracies were hatched, plots formulated, and immense bundles of literature distributed. With the exception of two candidates running for separate offices no campaigning of any appreciable degree was prevalent.

A few weeks before the election the rank and file of the membership was at a complete loss as to what was what in the election. In spite of this, however, when it came to the actual casting of the votes the members had succeeded in informing themselves as to who the candidates were. The result was, as stated above, a practical endorsement of the past administration.

The real contest centered itself about the candidates for the single post of Business Agent for the local and the Executive Board Members. The candidates for Business Agent were Sam B. Shenker, present incumbent, and Joseph I. Weinberg opposing him. There were eighteen candidates for the Executive Board, out of

which ten were to be elected. Seven of the total number of candidates running for the latter office were members of the present Executive Board and were re-elected. Of the three others comprising the ten elected, two were Joint Board members and the third served on the Executive Board in previous years.

It cannot be said that the contest for Executive Board members was very close, as the tenth man who was elected received a total of 405 votes, while the nearest defeated opponent received 245 votes. The contest for Business Agent, too, was one-sided, as Sam B. Shenker was elected over his opponent by a vote of nearly three to one.

The Miscellaneous Branch acquitted itself with considerable credit. Manager Dubinsky, when asked his opinion concerning the number of votes cast in the Miscellaneous Division, expressed satisfaction. The number of votes cast is usually taken as a sign of interest and activity by the members in the organization. The total number of votes cast in this branch was 50. On the face of it it appears as a very small vote when compared with the number of votes cast by the organization proper. However, it must be borne in mind that the beginning of this year saw almost no branch at all of the underwear, children's dress, wrapper and kimono cutters. After a year of intensive organization and campaigning this branch is now composed of a good-standing membership of about 150, out of a total membership of about 200.

A comparison of the votes cast in the Miscellaneous Branch for the four years just past will show the rate of growth and progress of this branch.

In January, 1920, when the branch boasted of a separate division and its own manager and when the trade was in a far better shape than it is today there were sixty votes cast. In January, 1921, when the branch was still supervised by its own manager, there were twenty votes cast. In January, 1922, when separate divisions were done away with and when the local was under the supervision of one manager, the trade took a sudden drop. The great majority of the members were thrown out of employment. In that year there were but seventeen votes cast. Then followed a senseless campaign and the union managed to organize a few shops and in the election that year there were twenty-five votes cast.

In March, 1923, a strike was called in the Miscellaneous trades. Manager Dubinsky, long after the strike, began a series of educational meetings for the members of this division, in addition to the individual shop strikes for organization purposes, with the result that the election held last Saturday netted ninety votes cast. This means an increase of more than 300 per cent for the three years just past, and an increase of 50 per cent over 1920, which was one of the best years that the division has experienced.

The following is the result of the vote. This should not be taken as official, since the Election-Board will render its official report at the installation meeting:

PRESIDENT—No contest.
Philip Ansel.

VICE-PRESIDENT—No contest.
Morris Jacobs.

MANAGER—No contest.
David Dubinsky.

SECRETARY—TREASURER—No contest.
Joseph Fish.

ONE BUSINESS AGENT—First one elected.

Sam B. Shenker.....601 votes
Jos. I. Weinberg.....217 votes

INNER GUARD—No contest.
Sam Masower.

THREE DELEGATES TO CENTRAL TRADES AND LABOR COUNCIL—No contest.

Benjamin Sachs.
Moe Diamond.
Louis Pankin.

TEN EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS—First ten elected.

Harry Zaslofsky.....556 votes
Max Cooperman.....546 "
Louis Pankin.....543 "
Benjamin Evert.....515 "
Meyer Skutty.....509 "
Louis Forer.....462 "
Morris Jacobs.....455 "
Henry Robbin.....450 "
Chas. W. Serrington.....442 "
Samuel Kerr.....405 "
Sol Levien.....245 "
Louis Polonsky.....239 "
Sam Linder.....213 "
Michael Ondusko.....182 "
Moe Diamond.....182 "
Harry Blum.....167 "
Irving Stone.....151 "
Isaac Barenblatt.....92 "

MISCELLANEOUS EXECUTIVE BOARD—First two elected.

Frank G. Lewis.....60 votes
Morris Habel.....59 "
Nathan Hoffenberg.....34 "

As was stated above, the official report of the results of the election will be rendered at the installation meeting, which will be held on Saturday, December 22, at 1:30 p. m., in Arlington Hall, 23 St. Mark's Place.

The installation of officers this year will surpass in importance all others held in previous years. In addition to the obligation of the newly elected officers, prominent speakers of the International Union and of the Joint Board will address the meeting. The local has been fortunate in securing a promise from International President Morris Sigman to speak. As stated in a previous issue, this is the first time that President Sigman, as President of the I. L. G. W. U., will speak before the membership. There is no doubt that he will touch upon the very important program adopted by the General Executive Board at its last quarterly session for the reconstruction of the industry. Other speakers will be:

Abraham Baroff, secretary-treasurer of the International; Israel Feinberg, manager of the Joint Board of Cloak and Dressmakers, and S. Yanofsky, editor of "Gerechtigkeit."

Members at this meeting will also be called upon to vote for the next convention city. The meeting is being extensively advertised and it is hoped

that the members will make it an impressive one.

Beginning with next week, the office is issuing new working cards to cloak and dress cutters. All members who are now employed and who hold either permanent, temporary or one-week cards are to appear at the office and change them for the new ones for the coming season.

Cutters who fail to renew their cards will be subject to a penalty.

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Notice of Regular Meetings

SPECIAL GENERAL.....Saturday, December 22nd
at 1:30 P. M.

Special Order of Business: Installation of newly elected officers. Also balloting for next I. L. G. W. U. convention city.

MEMBERSHIP MEETING.....Monday, January 14, 1924

Meetings Begin at 7:30 P. M.

AT ARLINGTON HALL, 23 St. Marks Place